



TOWN OF MANSFIELD

OFFICE OF THE YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU

Patricia Michalak, MA
Youth Service Bureau Coordinator

YSB Advisory Minutes
March 11, 2014
12:00 noon @ Mansfield Town Hall
Conf. Rm. B

Board Members

Present:

Ethel Mantzaris, Chair
Chuck Leavens, E O Smith Counselor
Patricia Michalak, YSB Coordinator
Eileen Griffin, LCSW
Trooper Stephen King
Candace Morell, MMS Vice Principal
Pat Schneider, Director of Human Services
Kate Bohannon, YSB Social Worker
Sonya Poulin, MSW intern

I. Call to Order

- Meeting called to order at 12:00 PM by Ethel Mantzaris.

II. Approval of minutes

- February 11, 2014 minutes were approved.

III. Reports

- Director's Report – Patricia Schneider
 - The budget is not yet finalized. Additional funds for programs have been requested. There have been discussions regarding the fee waiver program.
- Coordinator's Report – Patricia Michalak
 - **Villari's Martial Arts: –Presidents Day Camp:** YSB provided the opportunity for three students to attend the one-day camp offered at the Villari's Dojo on Martin Luther King Day. This was a successful connection and two of the students will be continuing with karate classes at Villari's.
 - **School Psychologist Meeting:** Pat Schneider and Kate Bohannon met with the four school psychologists and Rachael Leclerc, Director of Special Education to discuss collaboration, programing for students and for our new director, Pat to meet them. Discussion included home visits, respite care and possible funding for guest speakers.

- **Suicide and Prevention Training:** Kate Bohannon facilitated suicide prevention training for Human Services staff, Mansfield's Recreation coordinator, YSB graduate interns and community member Sharry Goldman who helped write the suicide prevention grant. This pilot training was well received and participants provided valuable feedback for future training. Next training will be this month for the town's Safety and Wellness committee.
- **Volunteer Recognition:** Volunteer Recognition night will be on Wednesday, April 9th at 5:30. We have begun planning and are working on a more comprehensive slide show to highlight our different programs.
- **PAWS:** Peers are Wonderful Support Leadership Conference is celebrating its 20th year. Mansfield YSB has participated and helped organize and plan this event since it's inception. We will be once again taking MMS students to this conference. Applications and registrations have been submitted. We will be renting a school bus this year since the Parks and Recreation van is out of service.
- **Multi Family Therapy Group:** Staff is meeting with our psychiatrist before the group to conduct evaluations for perspective group members. This program works in collaboration with EOS and continues to meet the needs for families with children requiring psychiatric evaluation and medication.
- **X-Block:** We have three groups running at MMS, 5th grade girl's group, 7th grade boy's group and a 7th grade girl's group. Students are becoming more comfortable and finding commonality amongst each other. We are working on social and relationship building skills. This time is also used to meet with new referrals and to check in with students who are ongoing active clients with YSB.
- **Parent Support Group, Grief Group and Grandparent Raising Grandchildren Group:** Common theme in all of these groups has been the importance of the opportunity to spend time with others who are experiencing similar struggles and triumphs.

IV. Old Business:

- Jared Redmond was not at the meeting to say if he has been approved as a new Advisory Board member.
- Challenge Program: there are no funds currently available for the program. There is a meeting tomorrow to discuss the Challenge program and any possibility that it will continue this year.

V. New Business:

- NECASA grant: the Board recommends \$1000 for the grant. Chuck Leavens made the motion and Eileen Griffin seconded.

VI. Other:

- E.O. Smith is holding their Intergenerational Dinner with the Senior Center on Tuesday, April 8 at 5PM at E.O. Smith. The theme is Greece and there is an \$8 fee.

VII. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m. April 8, 2014 is the next meeting.